



## **Freezing Assets of Suspected Terrorists and Enemy Recruits (FASTER) Act of 2017**

Representatives Josh Gottheimer (NJ-05), Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-8), and Tom Reed (NY-23)  
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In recent years, ISIS-inspired homegrown, lone wolf terrorists as well as extremist domestic terrorists have purchased materials or raised funds online, posing a serious new threat to communities in New Jersey and around the country. The New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP) 2017 Terrorism Threat Assessment found that homegrown violent extremists pose a high-level threat to New Jersey. According to the NJOHSP, there were 22 domestic terror attacks and 17 plots, threats of violence, and instances of weapons stockpiling in New Jersey in 2016 ([2017 Threat Assessment](#)).

The 2013 Boston Marathon bombing, 2015 attack in San Bernardino, and 2016 Chelsea bombings have shown that terrorist groups including ISIS and al Qaeda are motivating homegrown terrorists in bedrooms and living rooms across America. Furthermore, these threats are growing, given that “to compensate for battlefield and recruitment losses, ISIS is pushing followers to conduct attacks in the West, including in the United States.”

In February 2017, family members of a Point Pleasant, NJ man reported him to local law enforcement, thwarting his plot to build and detonate a pressure-cooker bomb in New York City and provide material support to ISIS. In 2016, Federal investigators discovered a senior ISIS official using PayPal to funnel money to an American operative in the U.S. And in August 2014, the father of the “Chelsea Bomber,” Ahmad Khan Rahimi told the FBI that he feared his son was a terrorist. Rahimi had acquired materials to construct weapons using an online account with the username “ahmad rahimi.”

**The bipartisan Freezing Assets of Suspected Terrorists and Enemy Recruits (FASTER) Act would help combat terrorism and protect Americans from new and evolving threats by:**

- **Requiring the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) to notify financial institutions when a terrorism suspect is arrested by, or turned over to federal law enforcement, and immediately freeze their assets**
- **Establishing a National Homegrown Terrorism Incident Clearinghouse to collect and share information on incidents of lone wolf terrorism and violent extremism**
- **Applies to individuals who provide material support to terrorist groups including ISIS and Al Qaeda, as well as individuals suspected of domestic terrorism**
- **Preserves due process protections by requiring government to provide written notice to a suspect within 60 days and grant them their day in court**

**The FASTER Act will speed up our efforts to combat homegrown terrorism, help prevent family members and associates of terrorists from carrying out new attacks, and give local, state, and federal law enforcement the information they need to crack down on these heinous threats.**